To ſhew that points will *throw off* as well as *draw off* the electrical fire; lay a long ſharp needle upon the ſhot, and you cannot electriſe the ſhot, ſo as to make it repel the cork-ball.---Or fix a needle to the end of a ſuſpended gun-barrel, or iron rod, ſo as to point beyond it like a little bayonet; and while it remains there, the gun-barrel, or rod, cannot by applying the tube to the other end be electriſed ſo as to give a ſpark, the fire continually running out ſilently at the point. In the dark you may ſee it make the ſame appearance as it does in the caſe beforementioned.

The repellency between the cork-ball and the ſhot is likewiſe deſtroy'd; 1. By ſifting fine ſand on it; this does it gradually. 2. By breathing on it. 3. By making a ſmoke about it from burning wood.* 4. By candle light, even tho' the candle is at a foot diſtance: theſe do it ſuddenly.---The light of a bright coal from a wood fire; and the light of red-hot iron do it likewiſe; but not at ſo great a diſtance. Smoke from dry roſin dropt on hot iron, does not deſtroy the repellency; but is attracted by both ſhot and cork-ball, forming proportionable atmoſpheres round them, making them look beautifully, ſomewhat like ſome of the figures in *Burnet*'s or *Whiſton*'s theory of the earth.

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* We ſuppoſe every particle of ſand, moiſture, or ſmoke, being firſt attracted and then repelled, carries off with it a portion of the electrical fire; but that the ſame ſtill ſubſiſts in thoſe particles, till they communicate it to ſomething elſe; and that it is never really deſtroyed.---So when water is thrown on common fire, we do not imagine the element is thereby deſtroyed or annihilated, but only diſperſed, each particle of water carrying off in vapour its portion of the fire, which it had attracted and attached to itſelf.

N. B. This experiment ſhould be made in a cloſet where the air is very ſtill.

The light of the ſun thrown ſtrongly on both cork and ſhot by a looking-glaſs for a long time together, does not impair the repellency in the leaſt. This difference between fire-light and ſun-light, is another thing that ſeems new and extraordinary to us.

We had for ſome time been of opinion, that the electrical fire was not created by friction, but collected, being really an element diffus'd among, and attracted by other matter, particularly by water and metals. We had even diſcovered and demonſtrated its afflux to the electrical ſphere, as well as its efflux, by means of little light windmill wheels made of ſtiff paper vanes, fixed obliquely and turning freely on fine wire axes. Alſo by little wheels of the ſame matter, but formed like water wheels. Of the diſpoſition and application of which wheels, and the various phænomena reſulting, I could, if I had time, fill you a ſheet. The impoſſibility of electriſing one's ſelf (tho' ſtanding on wax) by rubbing the tube and drawing the fire from it; and the manner of doing it by paſſing the tube near a perſon or thing ſtanding on the floor, &c. had alſo occurred to us ſome months before Mr *Watſon*'s ingenious *Sequel* came to hand, and theſe were ſome of the new things I intended to have communicated to you.---But now I need only mention ſome particulars not hinted in that piece, with our reaſonings thereupon; though perhaps the latter might well enough be ſpared.

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